

From: nholowat@csc.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 9:18am
Subject: 'Microsoft Settlement'

Dear Sir or Madam:

I'd like to add my comments to the Microsoft Settlement case. As it stands, feel that the current ruling serves no purpose but to help Microsoft gain a larger hold on computers in the schools. I also feel that the state of the economy should not enter into the punishment phase.

Some ways I feel that would help stop the monopoly of Microsoft are:

Microsoft should not be able to donate software to schools as part of the settlement. If they want to, they can contribute cash so that school administrators can chose their own operating system. In actuality, it costs Microsoft next to nothing to push out the CD's, and of course, they would be getting a tax reduction for the retail price.

They win on both sides of the coin.

Microsoft file formats for their products be opened up for open source systems or proprietary systems.

The price of Windows should not be part of a computer purchase.

Computers should be available without an operating system, and if the consumer wants it pre-installed, it should be at the same price for all consumers.

Microsoft should open the Windows application programming interface (API) to allow other vendors to write applications on an equal footing with Microsoft.

All networking protocols should be published fully and approved by an independent network protocol body.

Thank you for your time,

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